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## REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Without concession as to the propriety of the outstanding rejections, indicated allowable Claim 15 has been amended into independent form to include the features of the claims from which it depended. Claims 12 and 16 have been amended to depend from amended independent Claim 15.

All remaining claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

By virtue of the above amendments, all rejections are most and the application is in condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-9632A) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

v: / 690

Mitchell W. Shapiro

Reg. No. 31,568

Miles & Stockbridge, P.C. 1751 Pinnacle Drive Suite 500 McLean, Virginia 22102-3833

(703) 903-9000 March 29, 2006 Jason H. Vick Reg. No. 45,285